



# Department of Justice

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## **MONTANA MAN SENTENCED FOR RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

BILLINGS – Andrew Jacob Polaschek, a 24-year-old resident of Billings, was sentenced today to a term of 78 months in federal prison in connection with his guilty plea to receipt of child pornography. Polaschek was also ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100, forfeit his computer equipment and will be under supervision for 7 years.

In an Offer of Proof filed by the United States, the government stated it would have proved at trial the following:

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents were investigating allegations of child pornography access by users utilizing the peer-to-peer file sharing network. One investigation involved a person in Billings who had child pornography available to share via a file sharing program beginning in August 2007. The computer IP address was tracked to a residence in Billings where agents executed a search warrant on December 5, 2007.

Polaschek was residing at the residence. He admitted to downloading child pornography to his computer. Polaschek stated that he had a problem with looking at child pornography and estimated he had downloaded approximately fifty (50) videos of child pornography but would keep only about three or four at a time on his computer because he knew he shouldn't be doing it. He indicated that he had a reoccurring problem with downloading and viewing child pornography. A forensic analysis of Polaschek's computer revealed images and videos of child pornography.

The investigation was a cooperative effort between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Billings Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Marcia K. Hurd prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov/](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/).

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